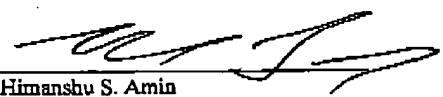


PATENT

MS158318.01/MSFTP241US

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being faxed to 703-872-9306 on the date shown below to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: 3-4-05
Himanshu S. AminRECEIVED
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MAR 04 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Applicant(s): John C. Platt, *et al.*

Examiner: Shahid Al Alam

Serial No: 09/870,292

Art Unit: 2162

Filing Date: May 30, 2001

Title: AUTO PLAYLIST GENERATOR

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2005

Dear Sir:

This Reply is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on January 6, 2005 in connection with the above-identified patent application.

The Examiner requires restriction to one of the following three groups of claims:

Group I – Claims 1-8, drawn to a data store and a list generation system that receives a seed item, analyzes descriptive metadata associated with the seed item and/or the user items, and matches the seed item(s) to a subset of the user items, classified in class 707, subclass 200.

09/870,292

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Group II – Claims 9-22, drawn to a similarity subsystem operable to produce a similarity value based on ranking and relevancy, classified in class 707, subclass 5.

Group III – Claims 23-31, drawn to a similarity component that produces a similarity value and matching characteristic patterns of a candidate set, classified in class 707, subclass 6.

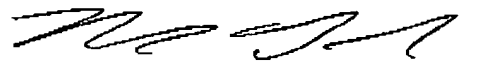
Applicants' representative hereby elects with traverse Group I (Claims 1-8) for further prosecution on the merits.

Should there be any questions regarding this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

In the event any fees are due in connection with submission of this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP241US].

Respectfully submitted,

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